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THE HARVARD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Plans for the organization of a School of Public Health in Harvard University, with the aid of an initial gift of \$1,785,000 by the Rockefeller Foundation, are announced by the university and the officers of the foundation. The announcement says that an excellent general course for the training of public health officers as well as special courses in preventive medicine, in tropical medicine and industrial hygiene have already been developed at Harvard. The work has been hampered, however, by lack of adequate funds and by uneven growth.

The new school will provide opportunities for research, will unify existing courses and will offer new or extended teaching facilities in public health administration, vital statistics, immunology, bacteriology, medical zoology, physiological hygiene and communicable diseases.

For the housing of the school the university hopes to secure an existing building of very suitable character immediately adjacent to the Medical School. Funds for the purchase and equipment of the building will be drawn from the gift of the Rockefeller Foundation. The cost of maintenance and development of the school will be met from endowment funds in part set aside by the university and in part contributed by the Foundation. The Foundation's immediate appropriations to the project will aggregate \$1,785,000. The arrangement also provides for further gifts, if the growth of the school seems to demand it, to any amount which shall not exceed \$500,000.

Though the School of Public Health at Harvard will have its headquarters in a well-equipped building of its own and have its own sepa-

rate faculty and administration, it will be developed in close relation with other divisions of the university, especially the Medical School. The administration buildings of the two schools will, it is hoped, stand side by side on the same grounds; certain heads of departments will be members of both faculties; and a number of laboratories and lecture rooms will be used in common.

The school will be able to cooperate with a large number of laboratories, hospitals and public health agencies in Boston and thus afford its students unusual opportunities for first-hand investigation and practical field experience. In addition, the school, through cooperative relations with a number of manufacturing and commercial corporations, will be able to offer the students practical experience in industrial hygiene.

SCIENTIFIC ITEMS

WE record with regret the death of Joel Asaph Allen, curator of the Department of Birds and Mammals at the American Museum of Natural History; of George Trumbull Ladd, for forty years professor of moral philosophy and metaphysics at Yale University; and of Peter Cooper Hewitt, the electrical and mechanical engineer of New York City.

ON July 21, a memorial was unveiled in the public gardens at Dartmouth to the memory of Thomas Newcomen, the pioneer of the steam engine. Newcomen was born in Dartmouth in 1663; he followed the trade of blacksmith there, and was also a Baptist preacher.

THE John Burroughs Memorial Association has been inaugurated at a meeting of a number of his friends at the American Museum of Natural History, the immediate purpose of the association being to protect Mr. Burroughs' home and camps and to preserve them, with their wild life, for future generations.